

Life in Hancock after the storm

Cleaning up and making the most of Coast living after Hurricane Katrina. Page 10

The Sea Coast Echo

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VOLUME 71

BAY ST. LOUIS, MISSISSIPPI

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ONE SECTION, 14 PAGES

Friday
Sept. 10, 2005

Hurricane resources

Federal Emergency Management Agency: 1-800-621-3362 (TTY: 1-800-462-7585). Mississippi Emergency Management Agency: 601-352-9100. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: 1-800-311-3435. American Red Cross: 1-866-GET-INFO (1-866-438-4636). Mississippi Dept. of Health: 1-866-458-4948. Epidemiology reporting line: 1-800-556-0033. West Nile Virus hotline: 877-978-6453.

Drag trash, debris to curb

Please drag your trash and debris to the curb. Trash and debris pickup is well underway in Waveland, began in the county on Thursday and should be underway in Bay St. Louis today.

Tree removal

Volunteers are available to cut trees off of houses, said Bay St. Louis Councilman Jeffrey Reed. If you need this service call the Emergency Operations Center at 727-450-8862.

Beware of potential cons

Please be aware that people are in the area trying to buy property for pennies on the dollar. Many citizens have already been approached. Officials recommend that residents be cautious when approached by any unknown person wanting to buy property or sell a service.

SBA grants

Grant dollars may be available through the Small Business Administration to help small businesses reopen. Apply through FEMA.

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'Wind-driven water, not flood'

BY BENNIE SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

The county will permit temporary power poles to residents who want to put a travel trailer on their property, said Board of Supervisors President Roderick "Rocky"

Pullman on Wednesday. FEMA will provide temporary housing in the form of RV's and travel trailers to those who have lost their homes for 18 months or more.

"We have been on the first level of recovery so far," said

Pullman. "That was to make sure people the basics would be provided perform search and rescue and clear the roads. Now one of our priorities is to make sure that our congressional leaders under-

RECOVERY--PAGE 6

'I think the federal government will help our state and ... get our lives back together.'
—Rocky Pullman

Gone to the Dogs



Volunteers collected animals abandoned or lost during Katrina at the Farmer's market in Hancock County. The animals will be held in Hattiesburg for 30 days before being adopted. Below left: Maria Raldré checks a dog brought in by a Hancock County resident on Wednesday.

Veterinarians from around the nation come to help Hancock's animals

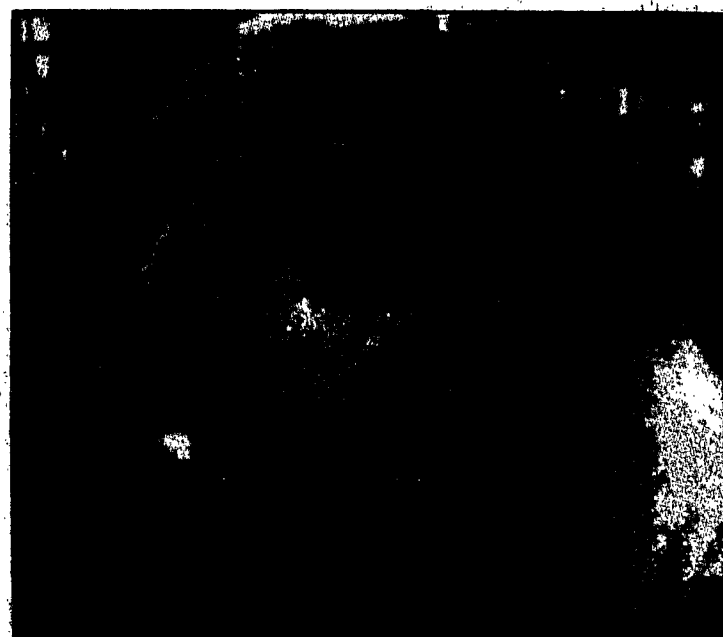
BY BENNIE SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

When Derris and Rebecca Watts and their son Anthony, all of DeLisle, arrived at the makeshift animal clinic and rescue center set up in the farmer's market on Longfellow Rd. they were frantic. Their beloved dog Red had one ear that was swelled up like a balloon. The vet they had visited, the Watts said, took the dog's temperature and charged them \$35, but did nothing else to help the animal, the Watts said.

"He told us he couldn't do anything else without power," said Rebecca. "We already knew the dog had a fever."

Power or no power, the Watts found help at the outdoor clinic. Within fifteen minutes after their arrival at the site, veterinarian Lisa Sharp, of Batesville had Red sedated on a table and was lancing her swollen ear. The swelling was a result of a hematoma, Sharp said. Red likely scratched her ear because ear mites, she. The operation looked worse than it was, Sharp said, because the ear contained a lot of

VETS--PAGE 6



For News, Advertising or to Subscribe to The Sea Coast Echo, Call (228) 467-5474 FAX: 467-5474

Fighting Fires



Fire fighters from various agencies responded to a call at Duncan Lamb's residence at 600 Longfellow Dr. on Monday, September 12. The fire is under investigation. Echo staff photo by Jace Ponder

Bay-Wave Schools workers to be paid

At the regular September Board meeting of the Bay St. Louis-Waveland School District, all non-certified employees of the Bay St. Louis-Waveland School District have been placed on administrative leave until further notice. Non-certified employees will receive their monthly paycheck based on their regular work schedule. Any employee approved benefits such as insurance will remain in effect. As soon as school sites have been brought up to safe standards, all employees will be notified to return to work.

Council meets

The Bay St. Louis City Council will meet on Tuesday, September 20 at 5 p.m. at the Bay St. Louis Fire Department on Old Spanish Trail next to the Police Department. The council will meet weekly until further notice.

Temporary housing assistance

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), in conjunction with the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), has developed several temporary housing options for individuals who have been displaced by Hurricane Katrina. Manufactured Housing Units (Travel Trailers, Mobile Homes and other pre-fabricated structures) are being brought into the State of Mississippi to provide interim housing for individuals who have lost their homes.

How is the placement of

Travel Trailers and Mobile Homes being determined?

There are a number of parallel activities taking place relating to the placement of Travel Trailers (TT) and Mobile Homes (MH). Existing facilities (Commercial MH and RV parks, cabins, apartments, etc.) that have working utilities, or require minor site preparation, will be examined first. Emergency Group Sites (EGS) will be placed in areas that can be easily developed with little infrastructure improvement. Individual private site identification

is ongoing and concurrent with field surveys.

Who is placing the Travel Trailers and Mobile Homes?

FEMA has entered into a Technical Assistance Contract with Bechtel Corporation for site identification, site preparation and trailer placement.

How is eligibility determined for a TT or MH?

Identification of occupants for trailers and mobile homes is being done by traditional and non-traditional methods. FEMA and the

Free disaster medical help is available in Bay, Waveland

DISASTER MEDICAL ASSISTANCE TEAMS (DMAT) are providing medical services and treatment at no cost at the Kmart and at Hancock Hospital.

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4308 Park Ten Dr. - Diamondhead, MS

Mail service now available in county

U.S. MAIL - For Bay St. Louis, Waveland, Lakeshore and Pearlinton residents 1st and 3rd of the month checks (Social Security, disability, etc) are available at the Bay St. Louis

Post Office 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Kiln Post Office is open for checks for Kiln residents. PHOTO ID REQUIRED. Diamondhead PO Box mail is at Diamondhead Post Office.

Free pet services

A veterinary and pet recovery center has been established in Pearlinton, across the street from the fire department and behind the civic Center on Longfellow in Waveland.

Horses are being taken to the covered arena in Kiln. Another veterinary center is located on 27th St. off Hwy 49 North of Pass Road in Gulfport. Contact these facilities if looking for lost pets.

Free disaster counseling at EOC

Trained counselors are available for relief workers, city and county personnel and others helping with the recovery

effort. Please contact the Emergency Operations Center at Stennis Airport. The service is free.



The Sea Coast Echo has been Hancock County's newspaper since 1892. During the next few months we look towards rebuilding and growing with this tremendous region of the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

To contact the Sea Coast Echo, please utilize the following numbers or leave a message at our regular office number, 228-467-5474.

Randy Ponder
Publisher
256-504-0814

Geoff Belcher
News Editor
228-332-0257

John Few
Advertising
228-216-6272

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Hazardous Duty



Above - Haz mat recovery: Members of Kemron carry a propane cylinder for disposal under the direction of Carter Williamson.

At right - Haz mat survey: Gary Roberts locates and identifies several propane and compressed gas cylinders in the debris of south Diamondhead.

Echo staff photos by Jace Ponder

Haz-Mat recovery teams scouring Hancock County

BY JACE PONDER
Staff Writer

It was a hazy morning when we left the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) at Hancock High School. I was tagging along with the Environment Protection Agency (EPA)/Coast Guard Hazardous Material Team. They were a light-hearted crew under the direction of Carter Williamson, a good-natured fellow from upstate New York and on-site project coordinator for EPA Region 4 Emergency Response Team.

We arrived in Diamondhead via Pearlinton at 8:30. After some map reading and game plan hatching, I was sent along with Gary Rodgers, Operations Manager for Kemron, an Atlanta based EPA contractor. Kemron is the clean up crew.

They come in with collection equipment after assessment teams have surveyed the area and identified hazardous materials. Gary and I rode through the south side of Diamondhead locating propane tanks, chemical drums, gas cylinders, and other potentially threatening materials. Once located, the hazardous materials are collected and taken to a collection area where they can be properly disposed of.

I was witnessing the initial sweep. During this phase of recovery, leaking and immediately threatening materials are collected. The clean up

crews are focused mainly on compressed gases, but also grab materials such as paint and cleaning supplies as they see them. As debris removal begins, the secondary sweep for hidden material occurs. When demolition contractors uncover tanks and cylinders, they contact the EPA. Appliances like refrigerators and air conditioners are collected by solid waste management teams and disposed of properly.

Countywide Haz-Mat Recovery teams have located and disposed of over 230 items. The whole process is a high stakes scavenger hunt. Katrina threw canisters about, and the EPA comes in to find them.

"She causes the mess, and she cleans it up; but, Mother Nature can't do it alone," said Carter Williamson. "She has the final say so on the recovery, but we get our foot in the door and help the process on its way."

The floodwaters of Katrina have displaced tanks, drums, pipes, and equipment. If you come into contact with hazardous materials, thoroughly wash exposed skin areas immediately. If you come across unidentified materials, do not attempt to move them as they may contain hazardous materials. Contact the Hancock County Haz-Mat Team at 466-8214, 466-8228 or 466-8229. If you can't reach anyone, try to indicate the presence of hazardous materials so they can be found.

Diamondhead service status

The 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. curfew is still in effect. If you see suspicious vehicles, get a description and report it to law enforcement at 228-518-1337, for Diamondhead Security, 255-1314, and for medical emergency, 911.

Water from the Diamondhead system is now drinkable. A few homes are still without water. Conserve water. Wash clothes sparingly. Please do not wash cars, drives, or water lawns. Shower facilities available at Holiday Inn, North and Main pools.

Sewer is partially usable. Do not put tissue into toilet. The system should be fully functional by today.

Work is continuing to clear trees from lines and to connect all homes. Most homes should have electricity by Friday.

Dumpster pickup is slowly picking up. Please do not put debris, trees, limbs, etc. in garbage. Trucks running on irregular times and routes as roads permit.

Place trees and debris along road side. Please do not place on the golf course. A list of clean up

contractors for resident clean up meeting liability and other criteria is available at the POA office. Please do not remove trees that may fall, on power lines when cut. Inform Coast Electric and they will remove the limbs. FEMA has authorized clean up of Diamondhead roads beginning today.

Use caution on roads as debris may restrict visibility. Trucks are working on power lines, phones, etc so use caution. Debris removal is slated to start today. Contractors are expected to make one or two additional passes over the next month or so to remove debris along road sides added after initial removal.

Diamondhead Grocery is open.

First Class mail is now being delivered. No packages or magazines.

Pools are contaminated. Please stay out.

FEMA's Blue Roof Program will cover damage roofs free of charge. Apply at Diamondhead Community Center in Card Room. FEMA's assistance number is 1-800-621-FEMA.

Bay-Waveland School Bd. meets

The Bay Waveland School Board will meet on Monday, September 19, at 4 p.m. at Bay Waveland Middle School in the Band Hall located at the second entrance.

Tell security you wish to attend the meeting. The board will meet weekly at the same time and location until further notice.

Camille couldn't knock us down,
and Katrina couldn't either.

The Peoples Bank is open for business as usual
in these unusual times.

Hurricane Katrina dealt a body blow to the Mississippi Gulf Coast region, but like our people, The Peoples Bank won't go down.

We're operating normally at 10 of our 16 branches and quickly making arrangements to serve our customers from temporary facilities in Waveland, Bay

St. Louis, D'Iberville, Downtown Gulfport, Long Beach and Pass Christian.

The following branches are open for normal operations, with only minimal limitations imposed by post-hurricane recovery efforts:

Downtown Biloxi Main Office
152 Lameuse Street
Biloxi, MS 39530
9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Cedar Lake
1740 Popp's Ferry Road
Biloxi, MS 39532
9 a.m.-4 p.m.

West Biloxi
2560 Pass Road
Biloxi, MS 39531
9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Orange Grove
12020 Highway 49 North
Gulfport, MS 39503
9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Handsboro
412 East Pass Road
Gulfport, MS 39507
9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Ocean Springs
2015 Bienville Boulevard
Ocean Springs, MS 39564
9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Diamondhead
4408 West Aloha Drive
Diamondhead, MS 39525
8 a.m.-3 p.m.

Gautier
2601 Highway 90
Gautier, MS 39553
8 a.m.-3 p.m.

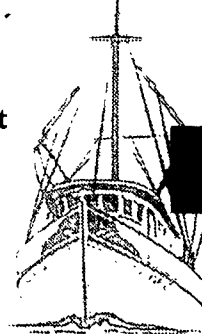
Saucier
17689 Second Street
Saucier, MS 39574
8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Wiggins
1312 South Magnolia Drive
Wiggins, MS 39577
8 a.m.-3 p.m.

In addition, 24-hour ATMs are in operation at each open branch, and other ATMs are available at the following locations:

Biloxi Regional Medical Center
Memorial Hospital of Gulfport
Biloxi-Gulfport International Airport
Biloxi Public Safety Center
Veterans Avenue at Irish Hill Rd.

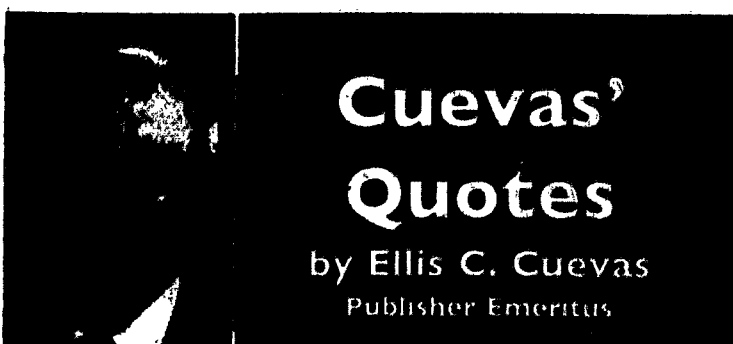
Our valued customers - businesses, institutions and individuals - can rest assured that The Peoples Bank will continue to serve and build the Mississippi Gulf Coast as we have for nearly 110 years.



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Cuevas' Quotes

by Ellis C. Cuevas
Publisher Emeritus

Gone with the wind!!!

Never in my life have I ever felt that one day I would be an evacuee from my home.

During my lifetime I witnessed the 1947 Hurricane at my family's residence on Jeff Davis in Waveland.

The Hurricane in 1954 which hit the Boston, Mass. area when I was in the U.S. Army.

Hurricane Camille in 1969 at my home in Bay St. Louis and several other minor storms.

I always thought that Camille was the hurricane of hurricanes, that was until Katrina on September 29, 2005, when Katrina rocked New Orleans, the Mississippi Gulf Coast and Alabama.

It has been 36 years since Camille's visit to the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

Yet, my personal damages for Katrina like many other folks is far superior to Camille's.

Those of us who survived Katrina can all say we are blessed to still be alive.

How great are friendships during catastrophic times like those following Katrina.

One very good friends, the Naquvi family have been so kind to Jane and I since they came and

rescued us and took us to their home in Baton Rouge.

One of our biggest challenges has been making contacts with insurance companies and adjusters.

We are very lucky to be near a Hancock Bank Branch in Central City too on the outskirts of Baton Rouge.

On a brief visit to the Bay on Saturday, Sept. 10, I could see improvements already being made in the area.

We will come back and we will be stronger than ever before.

Working together, anything can be accomplished. The hardest thing on me has not been being at home, at work, and making my rounds with my many friends.

Randy, Geoff, Bennie, John, Jace and Juan have been sweating it out. I just can't wait to get back into regular action.

I have always felt, and been told my area of Bay St. Louis would not suffer water damage from a hurricane.

On my visit to the Echo's office, I could not believe the damages to the newspaper's office and equipment.

Randy and I received, over the

QUOTES--PAGE 7

With dogged determination

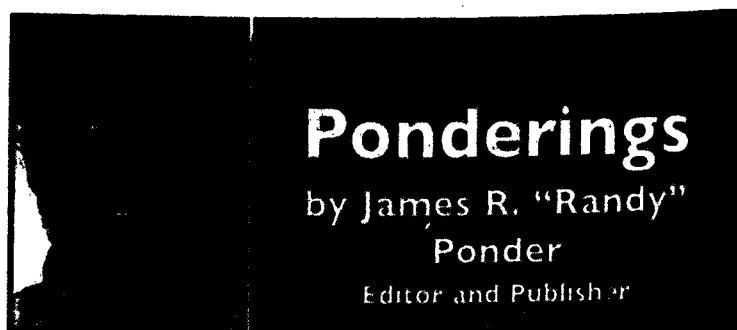
I have seven dogs at my home. Yes, I know I'm over the legal limit, something that I never had to worry about when I used to go fishing. Seven dogs. Before the hurricane we had just one, a beautiful, gentle golden retriever named Presley.

The dogs make me laugh. In the mist of all this destruction and dispare, these dogs keep me sane. I get up in the morning with the sun and right off the bat, walk out to feed the masses. The two little white dogs start turning in circles in anticipation while the larger ones excitedly run to me. They have to fed individually by spoon to make sure each gets its fair share of the canned, meaty dog food which is in very short supply. Then the dry food goes into several feeding stations for whenever. After eating, the dogs play tag. The small ones will pull on the ears of the larger dogs which in turn use their heads much like a bull to push them away. Its totally amazing how well these dogs get along with each other. There is a strong parallel between the dogs interaction with each other and that of the citizens of Hancock County, everyone seems to know that the only way out of this mess is to help each other.

We got Presley on Father's Day two years back. My daughter Ashley was living in Hattiesburg while attending college. She arrived home that day just as I was loading gear into my truck. She gave me a hug and kiss and with a big smile on her face, said she had a surprise for me. I'm thinking, probably some wild looking tie, but when the little, skinny looking puppy jumped out of her car, I thought, it had to be a joke. My youngest son Patrick saw the little dog about the same time I did and there was no escape. I had just become a dog owner again.

Ashley had found Presley while running an errand in Hattiesburg. She and friends noticed the puppy tied to a fence outside the animal shelter with a rope around its neck. It was a Saturday and the shelter was closed. It was also very hot and the little dog had no water. They made a trip home and returned with a bowl of water and some food. That's when they discovered that the rope was tied in a slip knot and as the dog struggled, the rope became tighter and tighter around its neck. In fact, the puppy was near death when they rescued it. They had no place to keep a pet so guess who came to mind. Besides, Ashley said, "every little boy needs a dog," referring to her then eight year old sibling. And Presley has been a great dog, very tolerant of all of Patrick's antics, such as using the dog as a tackling partner, rolling over each other in our fenced back yard.

Then came Katrina and everything changed.



Ponderings

by James R. "Randy" Ponder
Editor and Publisher

Several of our Sea Coast Echo employees used the Echo building as a hurricane shelter. Something that had worked just fine over the years and through many lesser storms which have afflicted our area. This time however things did not work out as well. We had almost five feet of water in the building. The muddy, salty water forced the people in the building to the highest perches available, namely a wall divider about six feet off the floor. It must have been a nightmare. Small children, pets, rising water and no place to escape. All eventually survived and made their way to a shelter. But four small dogs had to be left behind. The first place I had to get to after the hurricane was the newspaper office, not to check on the damage, but rather to check on the people I knew had stayed there. Thankfully, they had left a note on my office door telling me they all were okay. That's when my wife Sherry noticed the dogs. "We can't leave them here," she said. So in the truck

and on to Camp Ponder they went.

The small dogs were obviously accustomed to being held and pampered. They would now have to adjust very quickly to being "outside dogs." The four were introduced to Presley and after a little sniffing around, all was fine. They were probably in shock and had to be petted a little before they would eat or drink, but did take an immediate liking to Presley's doghouse which she had never used.

The next day, we heard a barking in our neighbor's garage who were staying with the international students at St. Stanislaus and were not at home. They did not own a dog, but sure as heck there was one in their garage, which was locked. The only option was to break through a door to rescue the dog, a young black lab. Welcome to Camp Ponder. We found out later that the dog was put into the garage at the last minute before the hurricane by one of the teachers from the school who

had no other place to leave it. It quickly became my youngest son's best friend. This dog would chase anything thrown. If it was too large to for it to pick up with its mouth, the dog would push the item back with its nose. It too fit in well with the other canines.

We were now up to six dogs. Patrick is responsible for the seventh. While visiting friends to take a shower, he noticed a brown and white beagle mix hanging around the house. Our friends wanted no part of a stray dog and were trying to encourage the animal to leave. Unbeknown to anyone, Patrick smuggled the dog into our truck and secretly took it home. Older brother Jace discovered the hideaway and expected trouble from me when they got home. What the heck? What difference does seven compared to six dogs make? Welcome to Camp Ponder.

I actually found a home for the beagle dog and sent it on its way while Patrick was away. When he came home to find the dog missing, Patrick was totally heartbroken. I had to call the new owner of the dog and plead for its return. When the animal returned the next morning, you have never seen

PONDERING--PAGE 7

Attention

Diamondhead Dental Clinic
regrets to inform our patients
that our office will be closed
until further notice. All patients
should contact an emergency
facility if necessary.

We wish for a speedy
recovery for all and
God Bless.

Thank you for
your understanding.

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-PAGE 7

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D.



Thanks for helping us help you help each other.

Hurricane Katrina hit all of us harder than we ever expected. Every one of our customers lost power last Monday, August 29. Sadly, many lost their homes or businesses. Needless to say, it was the worst catastrophe in our company's history. But thanks to the thousands of line personnel we brought in from all over the nation to help, we will have restored all customers who can receive electric service by end of day Sunday, September 11 – just 13 days after Katrina came ashore. It's been amazing to watch Mississippi pull together in the midst of this crisis. We are truly humbled by your patience and generosity. Thank you for bearing with us as we continue the massive task of rebuilding the severe damage to our systems, equipment and our community. **Rebuilding Hope Together.**

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Hancock County EOC Missing Persons

As of Tuesday, September 13, 2005, the following persons have been identified by the Hancock County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) as Missing Persons. The information is provided as follows: Name, description/comment, address, and contact person.

Alonzo, Barbara - 80 F Diabetic, 19200 Road 522; contact Melani Alonzo at 770-367-8433.
Alonzo, Ed - Same address and contact as above.

Avexette, Arthur Wade - W/M 55-59 years old, 619 East Second Street, Pass Christian; contact Sandra Nutter.

Ball, Anna Rebecca - 5'10" 140 lbs. Long blond hair, scar on nose, 43 years old, 200 Hillcrest, Waveland; contact Richard Ball (601) 736-5304.

Bauchman, Ruby - F, 44 years old; contact Tammy Capokephon.

Bell, Brian - attorney, Bay St. Louis.

Billiot, Nolan Edward; 30 years old, brown hair, brown eyes, photo available; contact Cheryl Billiot (985) 774-8892.

Brown Household - 619 East Second Street, Pass Christian; contact Sandra Nutter Boy 1, 5 years old; Boy 2, 7 years old; Kaylie, W/F 6 mos.; Linda, W/F 46 years old; Natalie, W/F 24 years of age.

Cain, Larry - severe diabetic with hear condition, 432 Washington, Ave., Bay St. Louis; contact Pat Cain (317) 201-8212.

Cain, Leatrice, same address and contact as above (Larry Cain).
Cook, Lane - Mr. Henley's farm; contact David Cook (620) 278-4242.

Cooksey, Judy and Mickey - 236 Pine Ridge Drive, Waveland.

Deem, Bryan - 5'5" W/M 5'5" red hair, tattoo on arm, 1708 McLaurin Rd., Waveland; Jonathan Walsh (504) 220-8373.

Dema, Sheila - F 54 years old, 350 lbs. 5'7"

black hair, diabetic, may have been transported to Alabama, photo available, 808 Spruce St.; contact Harry Grey (228) 463-9885.

Eden, Dallas - 5 years old, Bay Parks Apts., Waveland; Butch and Tina Papania 493-4915.

Eden, Jennifer - 23 years old, same address as above (Dallas Eden).

Fayard, Bruce - Washington Street, Garden Isles; contact Rick Fayard, EOC Health/Medical.

Folse, Kirk - W/M 40 years old, 300+ lbs., 5'8", bald, 9259 Harbor Drive, Bay St. Louis; contact Kathy Hill (228)342-2988 or Roxy Green, (601) 649-8751.

Foret, Louis - 7145 Pine Street, Clermont Harbor; contact 467-2988.

Fournier, Louis; contact (228) 323-4808.

Going, Meghan - F 15 years old, Florida Blvd, Pearlinton; Kerry or Synthia (228) 363-2644.

Gray, Louis - W/M 50 - 60 years old, 232

Bay Oaks Drive, Bay St. Louis; contact Mark Boston (678) 255-3507.

Hennessey, Maurice - 108 Meadow Lane, Bay St. Louis; contact Jennifer Fitzer (815) 478-7396.

Hodges, Charley - elevated house with exterior elevator, Glen Street 1/2 Blk. on right.

Jones, Anthony and Terry - 2756 Cedar Drive; contact Lisa Martin (724) 774-0472.

LeFleur, Wilbur Jerome - 6015 Lakeshore Rd., Bay St. Louis; contact Connie Frymire (228) 467-8245.

Lennon, Norman - may need heavy equipment for debris, end of Viola Garcia Rd., Lakeshore; contact Jerry Ulrich (228) 216-7784.

Manning, Kathleen - 52 years old, 5'4", photo available, 2057 Waveland Ave. Apt. 108, Waveland; contact Don Vinet (256)541-7964.

Martin, Cortnee and Paul - contact Gary Chance (402) 292-0443.

McArthur, Kendra - 24 years old, 8 1/2 mos. pregnant, 619 East Second Street, Pass Christian; contact Sandra Nutter.

Randy McIver - W/M 50 - 60 years old, 222 Pine Ridge, Waveland; contact Mark

Boston (678) 255-3507.

Milne, Linda - 11193 North Shoreline Drive; contact (225) 698-1470.

Mitchell, Daryl Daenyael - W/F 10 years old, black hair, 4'11" 96 lbs., 9259 Harbor Drive, Bay St. Louis; contact Roxy Green (601) 649-8751.

Mitchell, Shianne Marie - W/F 11 years old, brown hair, 4'10" 59 lbs., false tooth on left side; same address and contact as above (Daryl Daenyael Mitchell).

Monks, Andy - M, 30's years of age, 2055 Bienville Ave., Waveland; contact Mark Boston (678) 255-3507.

Murphy, Kenneth and family - pictures available, 843 Larkspur, Garden Isles; contact Karen McClain (228) 369-0115.

Rayborn, Winifred Nancy - W/F 56 years old, 5'6" 200+ lbs. Gray hair, 9259 Harbor Drive, Bay St. Louis; contact Roxy Green (601) 649-8751 and/or Kathy Hill (228) 342-5605.

Roque, Anthony - autism, black hair, brown eyes, nonverbal, 3501 Morrow Drive; contact Marilyn Roark (731) 617-1524.

Roque, Sandra - same address and con-

tact as above (Anthony Roque)

Russell, Larry M. - W/M 68 years old, tattoos on chest/arm, photo available; contact Michael Russell (678) 445-3622.

Smith, Davis Hall - W/M 60 years old, red/gray hair, 5'11", 200 Hillcrest, Waveland; contact Amy Smith (601) 259-1649 or (601) 992-7717.

Soileau, Orandi - size 4 or 5, 10826 Haena Court, Diamondhead;

Speed, Michael and Margaret - 5519 Lower Bay Road; contact Kathleen Speed (601) 763-7861.

Summers, Frank and Betty - 8333 Jeff Davis Dr., Bay St. Louis; contact Mike Ward (601) 278-4961.

Tallman, F. - W/M 82 years old, 619 East Second Street, Pass Christian; contact Sandra Nutter.

Williams, Leslie - B/M 40 years old, 5'8" 145 lbs., muscular; last seen leaving Times Picayune; contact Times Picayune, New Orleans.

Advertise in the Sea Coast Echo 228-216-6272

Vets -- helping pets

Continued from Page 1

blood as a result of the broken blood vessels. Before long Red was on her way home with a stapled ear and antibiotics.

Florida Vets, Isis Johnson, and Dan Grossman set up the clinic with fellow Floridians Bob and Jenny Mussen and Bonnie Carolin, because, they say, "something needed to be done" to help the animals left behind after of the storm. They got in full swing on Sunday and hope to turn the operation over to local vets and volunteers this coming Sunday.

So far, with the help of animal control officers from the area and across the nation, the group has rescued hundreds of dogs and scores of cats, and a handful of horses and cows. Livestock was hit hard. A man who had a herd of 1,500 cows has only found about 15 so far, said one volunteer.

While at the Longfellow Rd. location animals will be checked by vets and treated for any injuries they may have and for parasites. Many were dehydrated, said Grossman. After their checkup and a little food and rest the animals are being transported to Hattiesburg where a large holding area has been set up at Forest County Multi-Purpose Arena.

Those with microchips will be scanned, and an attempt will be made to locate owners. Many of the animals are wearing both collars and tags, but because of communications problems, it is difficult to locate owners or vets. The animals will be held at the center for 30 days and then sent across the country for adoption, Grossman said. Large animals will be housed locally.

Anyone needing vet-

erinary services can go to the clinic located behind the old Hancock County Civic Center under the farmer's market pavilion. The clinic also has food, flea and tick prevention, worming medications, shampoo and other supplies. The service is free. Vets there are working almost around the clock and sleeping in tents, horse trailers and the seats of their cars.

If you are looking for an animal you may call the Mississippi Board of Animal Health Hotline toll free at 888-722-3106. The Arena is located on the East side of Hwy. 49, four miles south of Hattiesburg just north of the junction of Hwy. 49 and Hwy. 98.

Volunteers and supplies seem to be coming, said the group, but are always needed, especially kennels to house found animals.

Recovery

Continued from Page 1

stand and get the message across to insurance companies, that the damage caused to our county was from wind-driven water, not rising water or flood water. The water is salty and eating up everything it touches."

Many people did not have flood insurance and insurance companies are balking on honoring some policies, but Pullman said that damage was clearly by wind-driven water and that that is different. He says he hopes that the government will step in and subsidize policies for companies who refuse to see it that way.

Pullman's own community of Pearlinton has few structures standing and none without

considerable wind damage. People are trickling back; some with trailers and emergency services are available in the area, including an animal center set up on Pullman's property.

Another priority for the county is debris pickup, which should be under way today. The county, like the city of Bay St. Louis, has contracted with the Corps of Engineers to do much of the cleanup.

"To receive that service at no cost, the cleanup must be done within 60 days. Pullman said negotiations are underway to extend that time limit because many residents have not returned yet to begin cleanup. Pickup will likely be done in two

or three phases. Trash and debris must be taken to the street, as workers cannot enter private property.

Later, there may be a waiver that could allow cleanup on private property.

The Hancock County Civic Center is being demolished and the county will set up trailers on the site to serve as a center for county government, Pullman said. He is hopeful for the future.

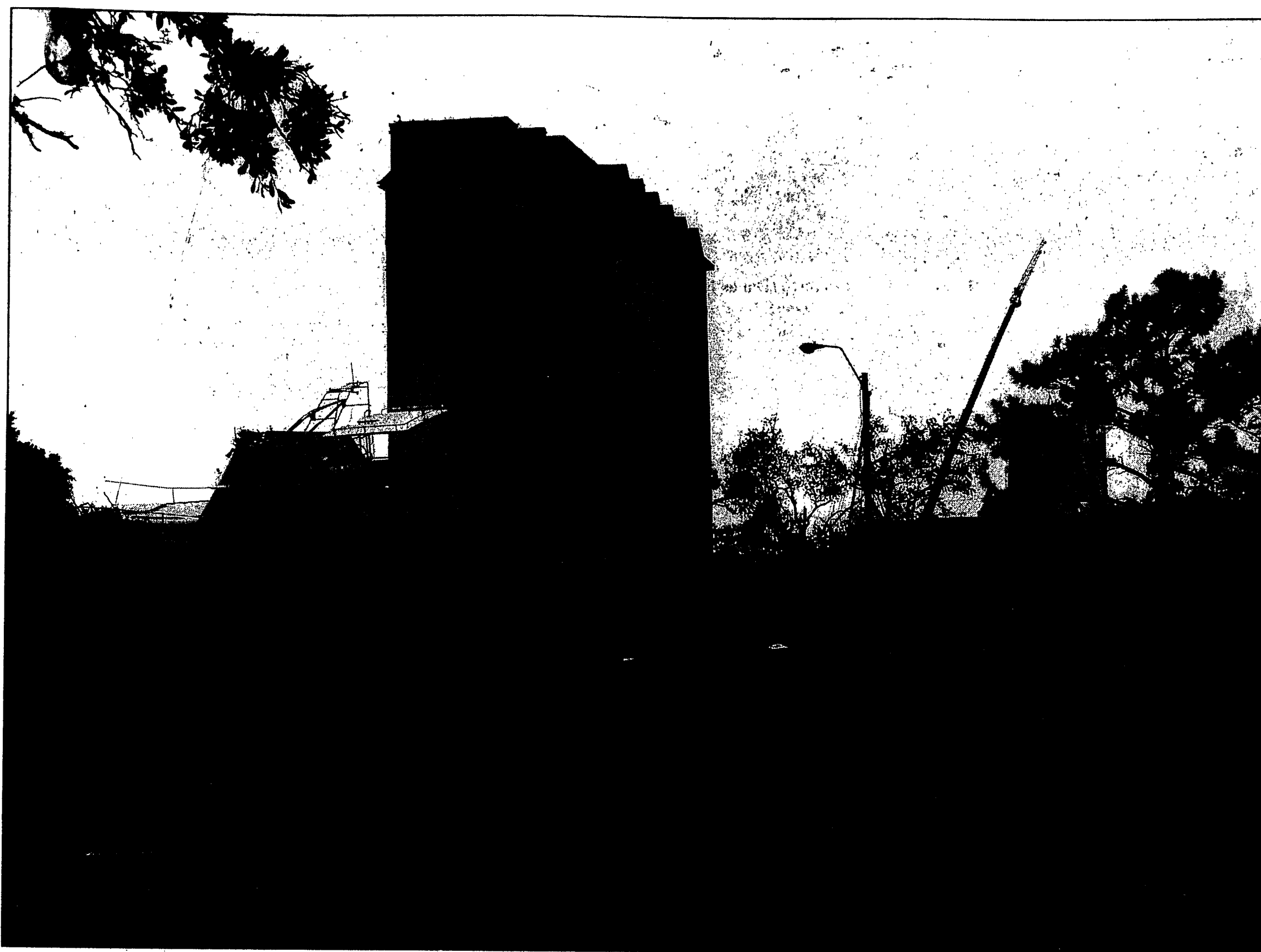
"I think there are deep roots in the community and people will realize that this is their home and stay," he said. "I believe that our federal government will help our state and all the other states affected get our lives back together."

Gerry Lane wishes to THANK

ALL FROM THE MISSISSIPPI GULF COAST WHO HAVE BEEN SO LOYAL FROM 1960'S TO THE 1990'S.



New Water Hazard



Echo staff photos by Randy Ponderr
The Bridges Golf Course at Casino Magic Bay St. Louis has always enjoyed a reputation for its challenging play. So this huge, motor yacht temporarily relocated by Hurricane Katrina to one of the back greens will probably pose no big surprise to any would be golfer. In the background is the casino's tower hotel which was damaged by the hurricane. The water wash in by the storm left behind about a foot and a half of mud. As the mud dries, it cracks into a desert-like scene 12-15 inches deep. Also left behind are hundreds of golf balls which were probably lost during play by less than expert golfers.

Pondering -- dogs

Continued from Page 4

a happier boy or dog. Patrick aptly named the dog, Katrina.

Then a sad thing happened. The employee who owned three of the dogs, a single mom, decided she could no longer afford the animals since she was living with a relative and probably would be for a long time and had no place to keep them.

She had somehow contacted an animal adoption service from Florida and had signed papers for them to pick

up the dogs and find them new homes there. I really wish she had not done that. I know she and her children loved those dogs.

I had no problem keeping them for her as long as necessary. It hurt to let them go, but hopefully each find good homes.

The owner of the black lab has also contacted us. He is currently in North Carolina and wants his dog. He lost his home and job to Katrina. All he has left is the dog.

We will arrange a pick up sometime in October. When informed as to how much Patrick loved his dog, the fellow promised the bring him a black lab puppy. We'll see. We also know who the other dog belong to and it too will one day be returned. We will then be down to a more manageable two dogs. Everybody has to have some escape mechanism to survive. These dogs are mine.

A temporary refuge in a sea of destruction.

Quotes

Continued from Page 4

years received many compliments on how nice a newspaper facility the Echo had.

I am sure that Randy will once again have the office and plant better than ever. As I said earlier - we will come back - watch Bay St. Louis, Waveland, Diamondhead, Hancock County and the Mississippi Gulf Coast really reach its zenith.

HCRA paychecks

Hancock County Human Resources Agency employees may pick up their paychecks at the Senior Citizen Center in Bay St. Louis. Any employees available to return to work should report to the child development center at 299 Washington Street.



To Our Valued Members.

Our heartfelt prayers go to our neighbors.

We share in the losses you have suffered. Many of our employees are facing similar situations as they work to restore electric service and rebuild their own lives.

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We appreciate the patience our members have displayed. Together, we have the power to rebuild.



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Photo courtesy of Bret Curry, Electric Cooperatives of Arkansas
Cobb Electric Membership Cooperative from Macon, GA donates four vehicles and food items to affected Coast Electric employees devastated by Hurricane Katrina. Coast Electric General Manager Bob Occhi graciously accepts the generous donation. Countless random acts of kindness continue to pour in exemplifying the electric cooperative difference.

BellSouth Donates \$5M to Hurricane Katrina Relief

The BellSouth Foundation this week announced that it will donate \$5 million towards enabling students in the Gulf States to continue their education via virtual courses - \$2.5M will be allocated to relief efforts in Mississippi.

With thousands of students and teachers displaced because of the widespread devastation on the coast, online learning is a vital education resource for students impacted by Hurricane Katrina.

"We want to make sure that high school students in Mississippi displaced by Katrina can stay on track for graduation, and online learning can help them to meet the necessary requirements," said John McCullouch, president of BellSouth's Mississippi operations.

"Working in collaboration with the

Mississippi Department of Education, BellSouth will donate \$2.5 million earmarked to provide virtual courses to affected students, train teachers in online course delivery and provide support for schools and learning centers to accommodate student needs.

"Because of the devastating effects of Hurricane Katrina, some of our schools may be closed for the entire school year and others will have the responsibility of educating students displaced from the severely affected areas," said Governor Haley Barbour. Online courses and technology support is critical to our relief effort.

"BellSouth's generous donation will help thousands of high school students continue their education and graduate on time."

"We expect that many

of our displaced students may change schools several times over the coming year, which will, in turn, increase the emotional toll on them", said Dr. Hank Bounds, state superintendent of education. "Virtual courses will help provide stability and consistency for these students."

"This resource will also benefit the schools throughout Mississippi that have enrolled displaced students, and need additional resources to meet their educational needs. The damage created by Hurricane Katrina is unprecedented and our hearts go out to the victims of this tragedy," continued McCullouch.

"In keeping with the tradition of BellSouth's support for education, we are committed to serving the students displaced by this disaster by providing quality online learning opportunities."

Social Security checks to be distributed on the Coast

The U.S. Postal Service made its last distribution of September Social Security checks in the Mississippi Gulf Coast area today.

The Social Security Administration has requested that checks not already delivered be

returned to their offices in Kansas City and Philadelphia to avoid any problems in distributing October checks.

Customers who have not picked up their September checks should contact their local Social Security

office for further instructions or call 1-800-772-1213 for more information.

The Postal Service delivered some 15,000 checks to Mississippi Gulf Coast area customers.



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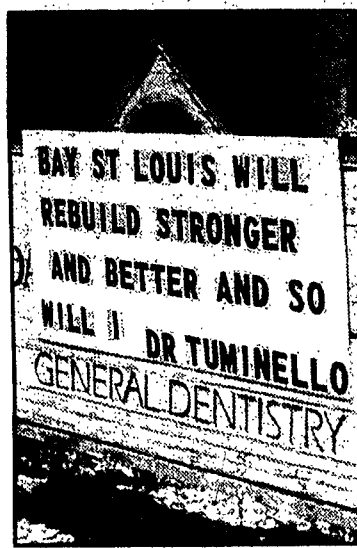
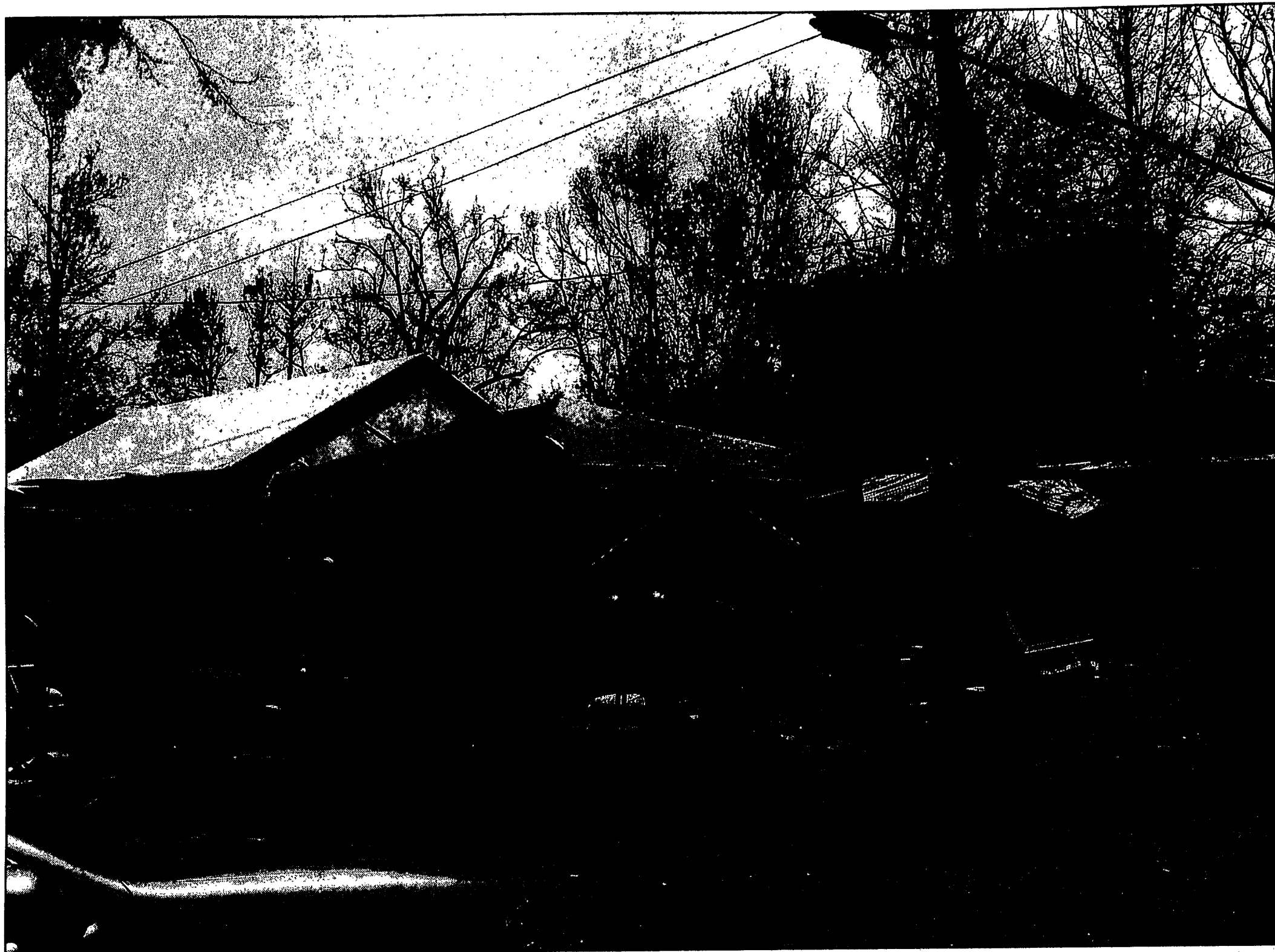
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Different Spokes, Kind Folks



On Wednesday, September 7, members of the 875th Engineers based out of Jonesboro, AR, deliver one of 40 bikes donated by Wal-Mart to 6 year old Levi Knight of Bay St. Louis. From left to right, Sgt. Jimmy L. Cole, Levi Knight, Private 1st Class Adam Wilson, and Specialist Melvin Clark.

Echo staff photo by John Few

Attny. General suing insurance co.s that won't pay

The state has set its sights on several insurance companies denying coverage in Mississippi. Filing lawsuits against several insurance carriers, state attorney general Jim Hood hopes to prevent the companies from refusing claims based on water damage.

Hood names in the lawsuit Mississippi Farm Bureau Insurance, State Farm Fire and Casualty Company, Allstate Property and Casualty Insurance Company, United Services Automobile Association (US-AA) and Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company.

In the aftermath of Katrina's devastating blow to the Mississippi Gulf Coast, Hood claims that homeowners' policies that exclude water damage from a hurricane violates the state's Consumer Protection Act. He maintains the flood exclusion was not adequately explained to homeowners when buying the policy, leaving many with a false security of being covered for a storm like Katrina when in actuality they were not.

A few insurance providers fired back by

stating the flood exclusion has been well established and changing it would adversely affect policy holders across the nation. Nationwide and Allstate have issued statements against the attorney general's efforts. Allstate said that it would be unfair to demand payment for a coverage they never collected premiums for, but did state that they are reviewing claims on a case-by-case basis.

The complaint against the insurance companies was filed in the Hinds County Chancery Court.

Another well-known figure in Mississippi law who will tackle the issue is Richard "Dickie" Scruggs, the architect of Tobacco litigation. He says he will sue companies denying homeowner insurance claims.

"Scruggs plans to use the argument that wind driven water is not the same as a flood. Policies which cover wind damage should not be refused.

Although the insurance companies see this tactic as doomed to fail, Scruggs says a Florida homeowner has already prevailed using this argument.

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Debris Removal



Debris removal crews at work on St. Joseph St. in Waveland. Crews began cleaning Waveland on Tuesday. County clean-up began on Thursday. Residents are asked to separate their debris into four groups: woody debris, construction debris, white goods, and hazardous waste. Woody debris includes items such as trees and bushes. Construction debris includes concrete, plywood, shingles, lumber, etc. White goods includes appliances like refrigerators and air conditions. The fourth category, hazardous waste, includes items such as household chemicals, paints and oils.

Coast Electric restores power to 92 percent of those affected by storm

On Thursday, Sept. 15, Coast Electric restored electric service to 3,360 members. Approximately 92 percent or 55,000 of Coast Electric's 60,000 members now have electric service.

Coast Electric is ready to restore power to the many homes that were damaged and/or flooded and are unable to accept service. It is the responsibility of the home owner to have these homes inspected and deemed safe by a licensed electrician before electric service

can be reconnected.

Prior to Hurricane Katrina Coast Electric served approximately 70,000 members on 90 percent of the land area in Hancock, Harrison and Pearl River counties. Due to the storm's destruction, approximately 10,000 Coast Electric members can not receive power. Coast Electric expects to eventually reconnect these members and more as the Gulf Coast area rebuilds.

Coast Electric maintains more than 5,900 miles of power line and 31 substations.

Hurricane Katrina caused extensive losses to Coast Electric's power distribution system damaging approximately 30,000 poles and 10,000 transformers.

More than 2,900 crew members and support staff from 19 states and 120 companies were brought in to assist with the restoration process in our three county service area.

Coast Electric members can report their power outages by calling our Bay St. Louis office at (228) 467-6535.

Bay railroad bridge could be repaired within a week

Sources say the CSX railroad bridge over the Bay St. Louis bridge which was all but destroyed by Hurricane Katrina on Aug. 29 could be completely repaired within the next seven days.

President George

Bush has reportedly issued an edict that the bridge - which is a vital link in the chain of the Gulf Coast's economy - be restored as quickly as possible, using whatever resources necessary.

CSX is reportedly

bringing barges in this evening and crews will work 24 hours per day, seven days per week to begin re-laying tracks on the bridge's supports, which apparently suffered much less damage than the tracks themselves.

Do you need medical care?

With Hancock Medical Center temporarily out of service due to Hurricane Katrina, a group of doctors, nurses and others from North Carolina are operating a mobile hospital in

Waveland and are ready to help you with any type of medical situation.

The hospital is located at 344 Hwy. 90 in the K-Mart parking lot and is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. There

is no charge for treatment or care.

If you have a life-threatening emergency, contact 911. All other patients are welcome to come to the field hospital.

Boil water notices lifted in parts of Hancock County

As of today the Mississippi Department of Health (MDH) has lifted the precautionary Boil Water Notice for customers who get their drinking water from the following water systems:

- Hancock County: Standard Dedeaux Water Association and Kiln Water and Fire Protection District.
- Pearl River County: City of Picayune, Pearl River Central Water Association, Town of

Poplarville, and Nicholson Water Association.

MDH officials remind residents in storm-affected areas that they cannot and should not assume that the water is safe to drink until it has been confirmed by MDH. MDH continues to monitor and test public water systems to ensure that water is safe to drink. Complete water testing requires two clear samples and typically takes

48 to 72 hours.

Listen for public announcements about the safety of the water supply systems. Even if you do have running water, you should not assume it is safe to drink until it has been confirmed by the MDH.

For more information on hurricane safety, call the Mississippi Department of Health at 1-866-HLTHY4U (1-866-458-4948) or visit www.HealthyMS.com.

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If you are a Registered Nurse (RN), Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN), Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), or Social Worker willing to volunteer, please call (571) 226-8221, - 8223 or -8224.</p> <p>PUBLICATIONS</p> <p>NOW HIRING for 2005 postal positions. \$17.50 - \$59.00+/hr. Full benefits / Paid training and vacations. No experience necessary. 1-800-584-1775. Reference #7200.</p> <p>REAL ESTATE</p> <p>FOR SALE: LAND & TIMBER: Bid date 9/30/05, 440 acres Jackson County, 4 miles Northwest of I-10 and Hwy. 63. Call for bid prospectus. 1-601-425-3376 / 1-601-466-2128.</p> <p>SATELLITE SYS.</p> <p>FREE DIRECT TV satellite for 4 rooms. FREE TiVo/ DVR/ Add HDTV. 220 Channels including locals, \$29.99/month. First 500 orders get Free DVD Player. 1-800-360-9901, Promo #14700</p> <p>WEDDINGS</p> <p>AN AFFORDABLE AND BEAUTIFUL Wedding Chapel in the Smoky Mountains. Christian ceremony, pictures, video, flowers, music \$165. Formal wear rental also available. www.weddingbellsintheflsmokies.com. 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The once pristine beach is now storm-ravaged, but the American flag someone planted shows that despite the damage, we will reclaim the beach's beauty.

Echo staff photo by John Few

North Carolina town 'adopts' city of Bay St. Louis after storm

BY BENNIE
SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

Bay St. Louis Council voted unanimously to approve an amended budget on Thursday. The budget calls for \$7,408,043 in the general fund and \$4,083,141 in the utility fund for a total of \$11,411,184 as presented by Mayor Eddie Favre on August 26. Though a reassessment of city and county value is likely, council members voted to leave millage at the same rate as last year, 17.75 for the city and 44 for the school district.

Councilmen say they hope that legislators push through a reassessment

of property values because otherwise people will be taxed on property values that existed in January of 2005, when as many as 75 percent of the dwellings in the city have been destroyed.

The loss of revenue will be hard on the city that has also lost casino and most sales tax revenue. Councilmen hope that state and federal government will help the city rebuild.

They also have a donation account set up at Whitney Bank under The Bay St. Louis Katrina Relief Fund. Council will approve all expenditures from the account, they said.

Pinehurst, North

Carolina has adopted Bay St. Louis and will be helping with the rebuilding of the city, said Councilman Doug Seal. Pinehurst will help with projects such as rebuilding parks and other projects. Other charities are collecting funds to replace sports equipment at the high school, Seal said.

In other business:

Mississippi Department of Transportation is here to survey the damage to the Bay Bridge and beach road. Councilman at large Bill Taylor said he would like to see the road built back a little wider with parking bays on the beach side of the road.

Residents wishing to park travel trailers at their homes need to pick up a free permit at the building office now located upstairs at the Depot.

The emergency declaration will be extended another week until September 23. The city is required to renew the declaration each week.

All but one of the city's four wells has been chlorinated and tested with good results. A boil water notice remains in effect for the entire city.

Council will meet on Tuesday, September 20 at 5 p.m. at the Bay St. Louis Fire Department.

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Free trees to help landscaping efforts after Hurricane Katrina

Ten free live oak trees will be given to each person who joins The National Arbor Day Foundation during September, 2005. The free trees are part of the nonprofit Foundation's Trees for America campaign.

"These magnificent wide-spreading trees will be picturesque additions to your landscape," John Rosenow, the Foundation's president, said. "They were selected because of the shade and special beauty they will give your home. Live oaks grow rapidly when young and may live to be centuries old."

The trees will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting between October 15 and December 10 with enclosed planting instructions. The six to twelve inch trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge.

Members also receive a subscription to the Foundation's colorful bimonthly publication, *Arbor Day*. To receive the free trees, send a \$10 check to TEN: LIVE OAKS, National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, NE 68410.

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ATTENTION LAWYERS

The Mississippi Bar has received hundreds of requests for assistance and offers of assistance. Please be patient as we provide disaster legal assistance for the victims of Hurricane Katrina and assist the many lawyers affected by Katrina.

With information, resources, offers of assistance, etc. changing by the hour it is difficult for the Bar to keep lawyers updated as needed. Members are encouraged to use the Bar's website www.msbar.org as "the place" to access valuable resources, to request assistance, etc. A message board is being added to the site to allow lawyers needing assistance to post requests for assistance and for those wanting to provide assistance to post what they have to offer.

Lawyers with electricity and/or Internet access, please visit The Mississippi Bar's website at www.msbar.org to access disaster assistance resources for lawyers and law offices. If you only have telephone access please call 601-948-3269.



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The hurricane has taken away a lot, but we're still here to serve you, just as we have been for almost four decades.

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Sincerely,
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